of the first component, where the interactively animated positioning is controlled by user commands.

4. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the graphical representation of the first variant of the first component in the predetermined relationship to the second variant of the second component is a three-dimensional rendering of the first variant of the first component in the predetermined relationship to the second variant of the second component.

5. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the step of changing the displayed representation of the first variant of the first component in the predetermined relationship to the second variant of the second component in response to user commands, where the changing of the displayed representation corresponds to operations selected from the class of operations comprising rotate, flip, pan, and zoom.

A2 cont'd

6. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the step of animating the displayed representation of the first variant of the first component in the predetermined relationship to the second variant of the second component in response to user commands.

7. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of presenting to a user via a user interface a selected one of the first and second plurality of variants of the corresponding first or second component further comprises the step of limiting the presented plurality of variants to a subset of the corresponding first or

second plurality of variants indicated as being available by a set of inventory data received from an inventory management system.

A2 cancel.

8. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the step of transmitting ordering information to a production management system, the order information including configuration data identifying the first variant of the first component and the second variant of the second component.

12. (Amended) The system according to claim 9, wherein the graphical representation of the first variant of the first component in the predetermined relationship to the second variant of the second component is a three-dimensional rendering of the first variant of the first component in the predetermined relationship to the second variant of the second component.

A3 cancel

13. (Amended) The system according to claim 9, wherein the system comprises fourth input means adapted to receive user commands corresponding to operations selected from the class of operations comprising rotate, flip, pan, and zoom; and the second display means is adapted to change the displayed representation of the first variant of the first component in the predetermined relationship to the second variant of the second component in response to the received user commands.

14. (Amended) The system according to claim 9, wherein the system further comprises second processing means adapted to generate an animation of the displayed representation of the first variant of the first component in the predeter-

mined relationship to the second variant of the second component in response to user commands.

15. (Amended) The system according to claim 9, wherein a selected one of the first and second display means is adapted to limit the presented corresponding first or second plurality of variants to a subset of the corresponding first or second plurality of variants indicated as being available by a set of inventory data received from an inventory management system.

16. (Amended) The system according to claim 9, wherein the system further comprises transmitting means adapted to transmit order information to a production management system, the order information including configuration data identifying the first variant of the first component and the second variant of the second component.

A3 cont'd

17. (Amended) Use of a method according to claim 1 in a build-to-order assembly system, where a product is assembled from pre-fabricated components.

18. (Amended) Use of a method according to claim 1 for customising a medical application device.

19. (Amended) A computer program comprising program code means for performing all the steps of claim 1 when said program is run on a computer.

20. (Amended) A computer program product comprising program code means stored on a computer readable medium for performing a method of claim 1 when said computer program product is run on a computer.

A3 Cancel

21. (Amended) A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave, comprising program code means for performing all the steps of claim 1 when said program is run on a computer.